

State of California
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State of New York
Commonwealth of Virginia

October 27, 1997

The Honorable Tom Bliley
Chairman
Commerce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Bliley:

We are writing regarding the recent letter you received signed by several governors on behalf of the National Governors' Association (NGA) which expressed "strong opposition to the Internet Tax Freedom Act."

That letter gives the unfortunate and incorrect impression that *all* governors oppose the Cox-Wyden bill. We are writing to assure you that this is not the case. We in fact made our views in support of this initiative known to our fellow governors during the recent NGA meeting in Las Vegas and in separate presentations to the members of our respective Congressional delegations and the authors of this important legislation.

As you know, the Internet, its related technologies, and the services it offers promise enormous economic potential and opportunity for our citizens without regard to geographic boundaries, therefore making it interstate in nature. We believe strongly this is a unique industry that should be allowed to develop without the market distortions caused by new and unnecessary regulations or taxes imposed by any number of the more than 30,000 taxing jurisdictions across the nation. The appropriate venue for providing this protection is through Congressional action, and we will work to enact legislation during the 105th Congress.

We are encouraged your Committee will soon consider this legislation and thank you for this opportunity to clarify our views regarding the NGA position and our support for federal action.

Sincerely,


Governor Pete Wilson


Governor George Pataki


Governor George Allen


Governor Argeo Paul Cellucci